

HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE PRECINCT
MEETING
January 13, 2010

Present

Gary Kubik, Chairman & Commissioner
Chuck Rage, Commissioner
June White, Commissioner
John Gebhart, Treasurer

Chairman Kubik called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Kubik introduced the members of the Board.

Entertainment

Jack Knox said he had given calendars for events to the Commissioners. He said the budget for this coming year will be the same as the last three years. Mr. Knox said his job is to keep up the quality of entertainment.

Mr. Knox said he had been approached by disk jockey Nick Diamond about a new idea. Mr. Diamond's forte is country music. Line dancing is coming back and Mr. Diamond suggested utilizing Sunday afternoons and calling it "Country Kicking with the White Buffalos". These events can be done within the current budget. Mr. Knox said this will be fine tuned and he will present it to the Commissioners in February.

Mr. Knox discussed Veterans' Appreciation Weekend. The air show at Pease will take place at this time. The initial response from the armed forces is amazing. Mr. Knox said he was very excited about this. One of the contacts offered the possibility of bringing in some kind of military equipment through the Army and Air Force. Mr. Knox said he checked with Brian Warburton about this and Brian was very enthusiastic. Another interesting possibility is having special musical teams break out in groups. They would come in for an afternoon and perform for one hour. They would be members of the larger ensemble who would perform in the evening. There is also a possibility of having a Medal of Honor recipient attending. Mr. Knox said he had a conversation with Tops in Blue. They are still looking at dates and options. Even if Tops doesn't work out, this event will stand alone. Corporate sponsors have shown enthusiasm. Mr. Knox said Brian Warburton told him about a gentleman who works building homes for disabled veterans from Iraq. He may participate or attend. Mr. Knox said he will reach out to various veterans' associations who will probably be excited to attend. This could turn into the second best event at the Beach. The image from the event will be phenomenal. Mr. Rage suggested tying up with the Air Force's website.

Marketing

John Kane said he thinks the Armed Forces Weekend will be extremely exciting. This all says this is a family beach with great value. Mr. Kane said the New Year's Eve fireworks and event was a great success.

Beautification

Linda Gebhart said the Christmas tree at the playground has been taken down. They have decided to leave the tree up on the island.

Ms. Gebhart said she spoke to a person at a garden club meeting in Salisbury who was very complimentary about the plantings at Hampton Beach. Portsmouth Garden Club will be planning a trip to Hampton Beach also.

Ms. Gebhart discussed the dance to be held from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on February 27th. It will be called the Fire House Swing. Tickets will be \$7 or \$10 per couple. She said Commissioner Rage had suggested a food drive for the St. Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen in conjunction with the dance.

Ms. Gebhart said Beautification Committee information has been sent in for the Town Report.

Old Business

Commissioner White said boats were decorated for the New Year's Eve event. There were 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. First place went to Kevin Bailey. Hopefully more people will join in next year.

Commissioner Rage said he will be going to Concord for the hearing on the martial arts House bill. Representative Nancy Stiles has worked very hard on this and hopefully it will pass.

New Business

Chairman Kubik said quotes are being received for the sign that was damaged by the bridge. Mr. Kane said Unitil, who is also involved, will do their work soon.

Public Comment

Richard Reniere, 29 Highland Avenue, said the Precinct Annual Meeting will be on March 26th. Mr. Reniere asked about the schedule. Chairman Kubik said the Precinct Attorney is putting that together now.

Closing Comments

Commissioner Rage asked everyone to remember Charlie Murie who passed away recently.

Chairman Kubik said the special meeting on the Fire Department would commence at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING
January 13, 2010

Chairman Kubik called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Kubik said they would now take care of a few items before commencing with the hearing.

Beautification (cont.)

Geannina Scanlan said as part of the infrastructure project \$67,000 has been set aside from the Arts Council to commission an artist for a mural or statue.

Fireworks – American Thunder

Warren Pierce, American Thunder, said the State may adopt regulations that will require more distance between the show and the audience. In anticipation of that American Thunder has shells that will work and possibly provide a more interesting show.

Chairman Kubik said that many compliments had been received on the New Year's Eve firework display. Mr. Pierce said the cold weather accentuates color and effect. There was also more activity in the air and less on the ground.

Chairman Kubik asked how many shows are scheduled this year. Mr. Kane said 13 were scheduled including New Year's Eve.

Chairman Kubik suggested doing more in the air like New Year's Eve for all the shows this year. Mr. Pierce said it is an option.

Moved by Chairman Kubik, seconded by Commissioner Rage, to hire American Thunder to do the fireworks during 2010.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Kubik then began the Public Hearing.

Richard Reniere, 29 Highland Avenue, said the Board of Selectmen voted to not go forward with a warrant article for either fire station this year. Mr. Reniere said he agreed that more information is needed. He said the critical aspect is what will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Mr. Reniere discussed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Precinct for three parcels of land with buildings owned by the Precinct. He asked about the discrepancy in the measurements of the proposed building and said this is critical because the parking revenue supports the activities at the beach sponsored by the Precinct.

Mr. Reniere said the Memorandum of Understanding states that the present fire station will be demolished. He asked about the garage and if the Town would pay for the removal of demolished material and make the area whole for the resumption of parking. He asked if lost parking revenues would be reimbursed. The document states that an extension of the current lease may be needed. Mr. Reniere said he saw no problem with that.

Mr. Reniere said the Precinct will need a warrant article at the annual meeting that incorporates the voters' approval of items 1 through 6 of the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Reniere said he would request the Board of Selectmen to come up with an alternative if this does not come to fruition. Chief Silver said he fully supported this.

Mr. Reniere said it is important to see a footprint of the entire project so it is possible to see what is left for parking.

Geanna Scanlan said she thought it might be a good idea to do another information night because people will be returning from Florida, etc. Ms. Scanlan said she was concerned about the timeline of presenting the fire station articles to the voters. She asked if they would be done separately or together. She said she was concerned about the Memorandum of Understanding because she doesn't recall the Commissioners saying the Precinct would deed the land. Ms. Scanlan said she felt the voters would have to decide on this.

Chris Silver, Hampton Fire Chief, showed a plan of the proposed building and the surrounding area. He said the Memorandum of Understanding is up to the Commissioners and the Board of Selectmen to interpret.

Chief Silver said the proposal for Brown Avenue included development of all the parcels. The number one issue was fire protection. They also hoped for a minimum loss of parking. Chief Silver gave examples showing why the other sites would not work. The building locations were not exact on the tax maps. New surveys have been sent to the architects. Chief Silver said he didn't think anything would be different. The title search is something different and would have to be taken care of later on. It could possibly impact the parking garage. In any event there would be no fewer than 50 parking spaces for the Precinct. The Town could provide some of the lost parking by using the lot to the west.

Chairman Kubik asked about a cost estimate. Chief Silver said \$3.2 million for the beach project and \$4.8 million for the project on Winnacunnet Road.

Chairman Kubik said the Commissioners had spoken to the Precinct Attorney and there is a letter to Mark Gearreald, Town Council, regarding the Memorandum of Understanding. Selectman Dick Nichols suggested the Commissioners get on the agenda at a Selectmen's meeting. Commissioner Rage said he did not believe the Precinct voters would do anything until they know where the Town stands.

Skip Windemiller said that for 20 years the dream of the Precinct was that the garage would be turned into a tourist center. The Chamber is not in a good location for stopping to ask questions, etc. Plans were that part of it would also be used for a senior center. Mr. Windemiller said he thought the beach station should be done first because it is less expensive.

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There being no further comments, the public hearing was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary